

## UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST

These proposed regulations implement Section 47 of Assembly Bill (AB) 1468 (Chapter 26, Statutes of 2014), which removes the ban on California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) eligibility for people who have a prior drug felony conviction. Effective April 1, 2015, this population is no longer excluded by law from receiving CalWORKs.

In 1997, AB 1542 excluded drug felons, fleeing felons and people who were in violation of probation or parole from being eligible for CalWORKs. AB 1468 removes the drug felon provisions of AB 1542 by repealing and adding Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 11251.3.

This policy change was initially implemented through All County Letter (ACL) 14-100. These proposed regulations will ensure that the state regulations are in compliance with the law and that people with a prior drug felony conviction are no longer excluded from eligibility from CalWORKs.

By removing the ban on people with a prior drug felony conviction from CalWORKs eligibility, this regulatory action may help people with a prior drug felony conviction successfully transition back into society, become self-sufficient and avoid recidivism by increasing the benefit amounts and economic security of their families.

The Department evaluated the proposed regulations for any inconsistency or incompatibility with existing state regulations and has found that these are the only regulations concerning Drug Felon Eligibility in CalWORKs programs. Therefore, the proposed regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with other state regulations.

The regulations were noticed on July 31, 2015. No changes were made to the proposed regulations following the public hearing.